



**THE LAW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

*and the*

**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL REHABILITATION**



*present a workshop on*

## **INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS**

***An Overview and Comparative Analysis of International and National Initiatives to Promote and Protect the Rights of Persons with Disabilities***

*in cooperation with*

the Friends of the Law Library of Congress; the American Association of Law Libraries' Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section; the American Society of International Law; and, the Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C.

**The Mumford Room (Room LM649)**

**James Madison Building, Library of Congress**

**Wednesday – March 30, 2005**

**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

*When we passed the Americans with Disabilities Act almost 14 years ago, we said that our nation's great goals regarding individuals with disabilities were to ensure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for such individuals.*

*America should be at the forefront of promoting disability rights in our foreign policy and assistance efforts.*

*Senator Tom Harkin*

### **WORKSHOP ABSTRACT**

The International Disability Rights Monitor (IDRM) reports that people with disabilities have been the subjects of “profound political and social discrimination” who have been left out of the “planning and implementation of programs in the areas of housing, healthcare, employment and education” and “subjected to horrific and degrading treatment.” Foreign law experts from the Directorate of Legal Research of the Law Library of Congress and internationally recognized experts in disability law will explore in this one-day workshop the framework of international non-discrimination principles that currently promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, and will provide a comparative analysis of selected national initiatives.

# INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS – WORKSHOP AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. *Registration and Continental Breakfast*
- 8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. ***Opening Remarks and Introductions***  
Walter Gary Sharp, Sr., The Law Library of Congress  
William Kennedy Smith, Center for International Rehabilitation  
*Videotape Presentation:*  
***Persons with Disabilities – Reaching Their Full Potential***  
The Honorable Tom Harkin, U.S. Senator, Iowa; Author and Chief Sponsor of the  
1990 *Americans with Disabilities Act*
- 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ***Introduction to Disability Law***  
Moderator: Janet Lord, Director, Summer Institute for Human Rights,  
American University  
Panelists: Peter David Blanck, Charles M. and Marion Kierscht Professor  
of Law & Professor of Psychology and Public Health, the  
University of Iowa  
Jeffery T. Rosen, General Counsel and Director of Policy, National  
Council on Disability  
Robert Dinerstein, Professor of Law, American University,  
Washington College of Law
- 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. *Break*
- 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. ***Disability in International Agreements***  
Moderator: James N. Bond, The Law Library of Congress  
Panelists: Javier Vasquez, World Health Organisation and the Pan  
American Health Organisation's Mental Health Programme  
Renzo M. Pomi, United Nations Representative for Amnesty  
International  
Maria Veronica Reina, President, Center for International  
Rehabilitation  
Katherine Guernsey, Lord, Guernsey Associates & Assistant Director,  
Summer Institute for Human Rights, American University
- 12:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Lunch in the Montpelier Room (Room LM619)*
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ***Keynote Address***  
*Keynote Introduction by Kersi B. Shroff, The Law Library of Congress*  
Claudio Grossman, Dean and Professor of Law, Washington College of Law,  
American University
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:05 p.m. ***Comparative Foreign Law Analyses by the Law Library of Congress***  
Moderator: Nicole Atwill, Senior Foreign Law Specialist, France  
Panelists: Sayuri Umeda, Foreign Law Specialist, Japan  
Gustavo Guerra, Foreign Law Specialist, Mexico  
Clare Feikert, Foreign Law Specialist, United Kingdom
- 3:05 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. *Break*
- 3:20 p.m. – 4:25 p.m. ***Disability Law in Practice***  
Moderator: Anne Hayes, International Disability Rights Monitor  
Panelists: Michael Stein, Professor and Visiting Fellow, Harvard Law School  
Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, The World Bank  
Katherine J. Dorsey, Center for International Rehabilitation
- 4:25 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. ***Closing Remarks***  
*to be announced*



## INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS – REGISTRATION FORM

**Space is limited – please mail your registration no later than March 18, 2005.**

The first fifty workshop registrants will receive a complimentary copy of IDRM's 2003 INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS COMPENDIUM (287 pages) and 2004 REGIONAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAS (444 pages). All workshop attendees will receive a series of comparative analyses of national initiatives prepared by foreign law specialists of the Law Library of Congress.

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James Madison Building, Library of Congress  
Wednesday – March 30, 2005  
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Please return this form with check or money order for registration fee of \$50.00 to:

**Friends of the Law Library of Congress  
P.O. Box 75732  
Washington, D.C. 20013-5732**

Registration fee is non-refundable and includes continental breakfast, lunch, and program materials.

NAME AND TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**For additional information, please contact Emmet Regan of the Center for International Rehabilitation at (202) 223-3559 [ext. 25] and [eregan@cirnetwork.org](mailto:eregan@cirnetwork.org) or Gary Sharp of the Law Library of Congress at (202) 707-9148 and [wsharp@loc.gov](mailto:wsharp@loc.gov).**



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## DIRECTIONS TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Parking is limited in the Capitol Hill area. Attendees are encouraged to take public transportation.

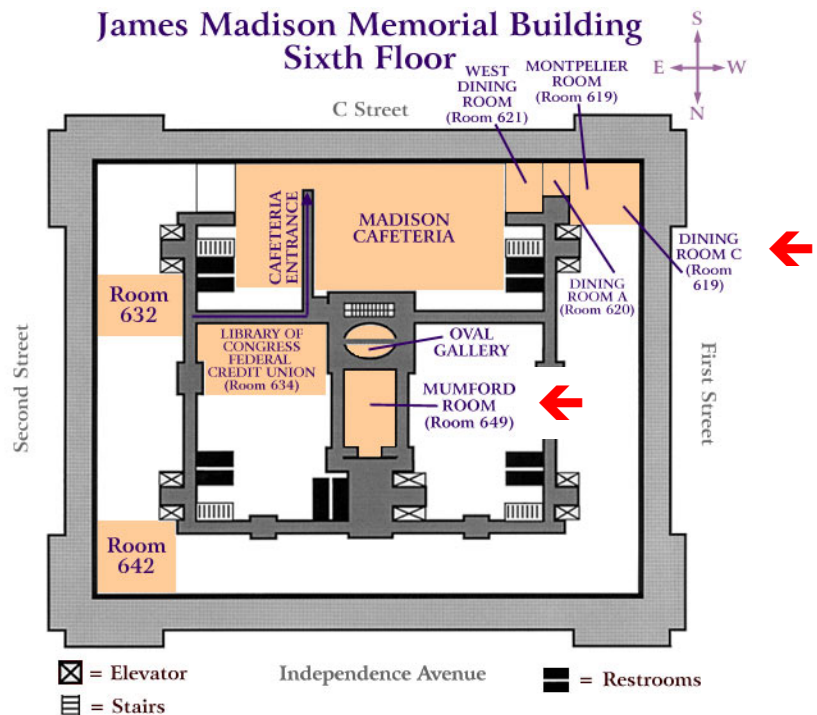


The two closest metro stops to the Library are **Capitol South (orange/blue lines)** and **Union Station (red line)**.

The closest of these is Capitol South, which is located diagonally across the street from the James Madison Building. Upon exiting the Capitol South station, walk half a block uphill to the corner of 1st and C Sts, SE. Cross the walkway at C St, SE, head right and cross 1<sup>st</sup> St, SE to reach the James Madison Building. You may enter this building at the back entrance at 1st & C Sts, SE, or you may walk one block up 1st St, SE and turn right on Independence Ave, SE to access the main entrance.

Upon exiting **Union Station**, walk south on 1<sup>st</sup> St, NE towards the U.S. Capitol. This route will take you past the Russell and Dirksen Senate office buildings and the U.S. Supreme Court before you reach the James Madison Building on the left (east) side of 1st St, SE. This walk will take approximately fifteen minutes.

After entering the James Madison Building, take the elevator to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. The workshop will be held in the Mumford Room, Room 649.



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